

Surgical Shock and the Shockless Operation Through Anoci-Association. By George W. Crile, M. D., Professor of Surgery, School of Medicine, Western Reserve University, Cleveland, and William E. Lower, M. D., Associate Professor of Genito-Urinary Surgery School of Medicine, Western Reserve University, Cleveland. Second Edition of "Anoci-Association" Thoroughly Revised and Rewritten. Octavo of 272 pages with 75 illustrations. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company. 1920. Cloth, \$5.00 net.

Paganini, it is said, cared little for his fame as a violinist. It was as a composer that he longed to have his name handed down to posterity. Posterity, however, still knows him as the greatest fiddler who ever lived; his compositions it has buried and forgotten. It almost seems as though Crile were emulating him. The writings of this consummate virtuoso deal, as time goes on, less and less with matters of surgical technique, and wander farther and farther into fields of theory. However, we will forgive him his theoretical excursions gladly; out of them have arisen the most beneficent of the recent developments of surgical art. Nothing more productive of good has been brought into surgery since the days immediately following Pasteur and Lister—the '80s and '90s of the last century.

Despite the promise in the preface to omit "any discussion of the various theories of shock," discussions of Crile's own theory take up the first seven chapters—over half the book. This part is more interesting than convincing. The remaining chapters deal with the anociation (anoci-association) technique in abdominal operations, genito-urinary operations and goitre. They merit strictest attention.

The book is well written and illustrated.

Every surgeon will profit from studying it and being guided by it. L. E.

Care of the Baby. By J. P. Crozier Griffith. 6th ed. 463 pages. Illustrated. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Co. 1916.

The careful instruction in detail as to the hygiene and care of the baby in health justifies the six editions through which this work has passed.

In the meal schedule for all babies, we feel that two night feedings, 12 and 4, are a mistake; that the night bottle after 10 p. m. should be omitted after six weeks and that five feedings are enough, whether the child is on a three-hour schedule by six months—6, 9, 12, 3, 6, or a four-hour schedule—6, 10, 2, 6, 10.

We feel that the thermos bottle has no place in a baby's outfit. Its only possible use is to hold milk cold or to hold boiling water for night heating of a bottle, never to incubate bacteria by holding milk warm through the night.

Our experience in California agrees with the school of pediatricists which advocates the early addition of green vegetables puréed, hence their delegation "to 2-3 years and then cautiously" seems strange. Cream, as usually skimmed in the country and delayed in transportation, always gives trouble, and is out of place in a child's diet in any California city. Certified milk or accurately pasteurized milk should be a source of butter fat to the child. In view of the H. C. L., the ordering of two quarts of milk to secure 12% top milk in sufficient quantity seems unnecessary, 5% or 8% or 10% top milk from one quart offers variation in fats and the corresponding skimmed milk the proteids required by different demands of the baby, and the surplus of skimmed milk is a household problem in the one child and one servant or no servant household.

The book will remain, as it always has been,

the last word as a reference book for the intelligent mother and her co-workers, the doctor and the nurse. Doctor Griffith has impressed upon us all the importance of detail in keeping babies well. A. B.

Treatment of Syphilis. By H. Sheridan Baketel. 167 pages. Illustrated. New York: Macmillan Company. 1920. Price, \$2.50.

Even the most experienced syphilologist will read this book with some profit, and whoever treats syphilis should read it. Of course, there are a few things we must object to: Those who know will easily understand that the author means "intramuscularly" many a time when he says "hypodermically," but it might lead to misunderstandings. We cannot agree with the author when he makes the statement that the percentage of fatal cases following the use of salvarsan, and which he places at between 1/50 and 1/100 of 1 per cent. is almost negligible, and we are sure that even that small percentage can be avoided. While it may be negligible for the head of a hospital department, it is not negligible in private practice, and surely not negligible for the poor fellow who just happens to be the victim. Of course, Baketel must be of the same opinion, because he enters into a detailed and excellent discussion of animal experiments which show how fatal accidents may happen. We are very glad that he emphasizes repeatedly the care that must be taken in first examining the patient's bodily condition, then to properly prepare him, and to watch the heart's action during the injection of arsphenamin.

Amongst the mercurial remedies the author mentions, we were surprised to miss one of the best and most efficacious: the intravenous injection of cyanide of mercury. In one of the best chapters containing an almost complete review of the various methods of treatment of the central nervous system there is no mention of Barbat's modus operadi: to drain the spinal canal immediately after an intravenous injection of arsphenanim, and by which proceeding very good results are obtained mainly in cases of locomotor-ataxia.

The author took no notice of the fact that the blood-pressure apparatus can very advantageously replace the tourniquet of rubber tubing, and that by pumping it up to 110 the chosen vein will show at its very best, while, if there is no other assistance the patient himself can handle the inflating bulb.

We are glad, indeed, that the author lays stress upon the prophylactic value of arsphenanim, and we most heartily agree with him when he raises his voice against, what he justly calls "the lazy man's method" of administering Neosalvarsan intravenously in concentrated solutions. Knowing, however, that wool should never be worn next to the human skin, we fail to understand why Baketel orders that woollen undergarments should be worn by those undergoing the mercurial inunction treatment.

Some of the chapters of this valuable book ought to be also read by nurses and office attendants, mainly the one dealing with the care of needles. V. G. V.

Medical Treatment of Cancer. By L. Dincan Bulkley. 386 pages. Philadelphia: F. A. Davis Company. 1919. Price \$2.75.

This book consists of a series of lectures delivered before various societies. It contains mostly repetitions, opening and closing addresses and words of apology. Twenty-five pages would seem about sufficient to express what the author has to say. He presents nothing illuminating and leaves little inspiration behind. M. J.